

## Message Text

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51  
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 STR-04 COME-00 AID-05 RSC-01 /028 W  
----- 024104

R 240900Z DEC 74  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9802  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

UNCLAS GENEVA 7630

PASS STR

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS:  
SUBJ: ESTABLISHMENT OF NAM OFFICE IN GENEVA

1. SUMMARY: MR. NICHOLAS HOLLIS, VICE-PRESIDENT AND  
MANAGER FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS (NAM) CALLED ON  
CHARGE DECEMBER 19 TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR SETTING UP AN  
OFFICE IN GENEVA IN CONNECTION WITH MTN. END SUMMARY.

2. NAM IS INTERESTED IN SETTING UP A SMALL OFFICE (ONE  
AMERICAN AND AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF LOCAL EMPLOYEES)  
IN GENEVA DURING THE MTN WHICH WOULD SERVE TWO PRINCIPAL  
PURPOSES:

A) TO INFORM INDUSTRY OF DEVELOPMENTS DURING  
TRADE NEGOTIATIONS;  
B) TO ACT AS LIAISON TO ISAC (INDUSTRIAL SECTOR  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE) WHICH WILL BE ACTIVE DURING MTN.  
THIS WOULD INCLUDE GIVING THEM OFFICE SPACE TO WORK  
OUT OF; BRIEFING THEM, SETTING UP GROUP BRIEFINGS BY  
U.S. MTN OFFICIALS TO ISAC MEMBERS; FEEDING BACK THE  
DEVELOPMENTS AND PERTINENT INFORMATION TO THEIR MEMBERS.  
U.S. MTN OFFICIALS HERE INDICATE THAT STR THINKS  
THIS WOULD BE A WORTHWHILE PROJECT.

3. MR. HOLLIS WAS CONCERNED WITH THE QUESTION OF  
WORK PERMITS IN SWITZERLAND AND SECONDLY WITH THE  
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PRACTICALITY AND BENEFIT OF APPLYING AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL

ORGANIZATION WITH CONSULTATIVE STATUS TO THE UN (ECOSOC), PARTICULARLY IF THIS STATUS WOULD MAKE WORK PERMITS EASIER TO OBTAIN. WE ADVISED HIM THAT NGO CONSULTATIVE STATUS HAS NO BEARING ON OBTAINING WORK PERMITS. WE ARE TOLD THAT IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN WORK PERMITS UNLESS THE APPLICANT IS CONSIDERED A "UTILITE PUBLIQUE;" OTHERWISE, THERE IS A LONG WAITING LIST, AND NEW PERMITS ISSUED ONLY WHEN OLD ONES EXPIRE. IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THAT NAM WOULD BE CONSIDERED QUALIFIED UNDER THE PRESENT CONDITIONS. ONE SUGGESTION WE PRESENTED FOR NAM'S CONSIDERATION WAS SETTING UP THEIR OFFICE IN FERNEY-VOLTAIRE, SEVEN MINUTES FROM GENEVA JUST ACROSS THE BORDER IN FRANCE, WHERE THERE EVIDENTLY IS NOT A PROBLEM WITH WORK PERMITS.

4. REGARDING NGO CONSULTATIVE STATUS, WE GAVE HIM THE NECESSARY INFORMATION FOR APPLICATION. HOWEVER, IF NAM APPLIED RIGHT NOW THE MATTER WOULD NOT BE ACTUALLY VOTED ON BY ECOSOC UNTIL THEIR SPRING MEETING IN 1976.

5. WE CONCLUDED THE MEETING BUT AGREED THAT WE COULD PURSUE THIS QUESTION FURTHER IF SO INSTRUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT. THE NAM WILL PRESUMABLY BE IN TOUCH WITH STR. DALE

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